

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**In re Application of:**

Gonzalez et al.

**Serial No.:** 09/392,034

**Filed:** September 8, 1999

**For:** METHOD FOR FORMING A SELF-  
ALIGNED ISOLATION TRENCH

**Confirmation No.:** 9481

**Examiner:** A. Mai

**Group Art Unit:** 2814

**Attorney Docket No.:** 2269-6981.2US  
(1996-0723.02/US)

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

**July 13, 2009**

**AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING REQUEST FOR**  
**CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following amendments and remarks are filed in response to the Examiner's remarks in the Final Office Action mailed February 20, 2009 and simultaneously with a petition for a one-month extension of the time period for response and a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). The Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and Amendment Accompanying RCE are filed subsequent to a Notice of Appeal filed April 17, 2009 and in lieu of an Appeal Brief.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 25 of this paper.